

New Bedford 9th mo 30 1812

Dear Deborah,

Had I not have gone to the Agricultural Fair last week at Myners, and business prevented I should have answered your letter evr this - I was right glad to hear from you - so long a time had elapsed that I began to think you were absent from home - Wele knowing that your name Deborah, signified "Bee", as I once wrote you respecting your industry, I did not once suspect I would have you to think, that you had the least bit of the "tortoise" fever - It is well I did not suspect so, for your letter would have caused my decessus to vanish. We had an exceedingly pleasant time at the Fair, Danl Shurter & Mary & Fanny and myself - instead of going in the car Daniel kindly invited her to ride with him in his carriage - it was a beautiful day, and I never saw a finer exhibition of fruit - the stock did not seem to me as good as common - All along the route, the trees were loaded down with all sorts of fruits - how strange is it not, that while Nature is so bountiful with all her gifts, that man, sinful man should be waging war against his brother man - and yet he is only reaping the whirlwind he has sown.

What a desolation this war is causing, and
yet it seems almost necessary, to bring the
nation to its senses - it is trials, troubles, and
sorrows that cause us to reflect and see that
our trust is not in man, but in the great principles
of Love, Justice, Equity & Fraternity, and Christianity
and when we are fully convinced of this, then
shall we have better Rulers & Leaders as the exponent
of our ideas. Death has been making his rounds
here as well as on the Battle Field. - Little over
two weeks ago, my cousin Caroline Kempton
died - her death at last was rather sudden -
we thought she might have lived till November
but the day before she died she began to have great
difficulty in her breathing, and suffered greatly
till about twenty minutes before she died, when
she passed away quietly, and almost impercepti-
bly being sensible to the last. She looked very
natural after death though much emaciated -
Mr Potter spoke most beautifully, and comfortingly
at the funeral - Yesterday our friend Isaac L Taber
died, after a short illness of a week or ten days.
He had an involution of the intestines and suffered
excruciatingly - for several days he was under
the influence of Anodynes & Chlorophorm - he has
overworked himself, and is another victim
to this accursed war - day and night has
he worked indefatigably - till poor Taber

Nature finally gave out - Gro. T Baker died
a few weeks since - a great blessing - he has
been sick several years - His daughter Mrs
Fisher takes boarders among the number
is my Aunt Phoebe Hartn who moreover
lives at Horatio Kermittens after Carlins
death is Ned Reynolds a young man about 25 years
old, who was nephew of the former Mr. Spooner
and lived there till he went to sea, died at
John R Thornton's about a month since of
Consumption. Last you may not have heard
I will now inform you that Judge Oliver Prescott
aged 55 is engaged to be married to Helen
Howland aged 25 daughter of James Henry
Howland - some difference in their ages - 30
years - Her father used to go to school to the Judge
and his the Judge's Mother in law (Helen's step mother)
is six months younger than his wife - I received
a letter from Danl Forte Chaplain of 33 Regt week
before last speaking in the highest terms of Col
Maggi both as a Soldier & an Abolitionist and
how he had infused his principles of Freedom
into the whole Regt - I have the letter printed
in the Standard it was so good - I should have
sent you a copy, but I sent one to Wendell Phillips
asking him to have it printed in the Liberator or
Standard if he thought it would do any good
and you will see it there, if not I can show it you

Col Maggie thinks every thing of Mr Foster and
I feel very well satisfied in getting Mr Foster
the place - The Col thinks every thing of Col
Bates who is now Col of 12th Late Websters Regt
He was promoted as Major of Col Maggie's
Regt but after Webster's death was again pro-
moted to the Colonies of that Regt - He was but a
short time with Maggie who regrets being obliged
to lose him. I think Col Bates is a Weymouth
man - Just think of John C Wyman the Capt
that now is under Maggie being Provost Marshal
of Alexandria - I saw the copy of Correspondence
between Stanton & Secy War & Gen Andrew - both of them
holding the 33rd in the highest estimation - the Regt
is going with Genl Lee's Division I rec^c a letter
from Capt Shl R Rodman 38th Regt he is at Camp
Gram near Baltimore has been sick with the
dysentery - is slowly recovering - says he is surprised
to find so much Abolition sentiment among
the men of the Regt as well as among the Marylanders.
Major W^m Logan Rodman of same Regt is well - Sarah
Ann continues the same - Rest of our family are all well
Thornton Briggs has enlisted - Sarah Thornton Gilbert wife
is poorly, going to Baltimore Thursday - She is a little better
now - Ferrander, formerly a strong Democrat & now Editor of
the Mercury has come out a strong Anti Slavery man, takes
the highest ground. Tell Mr Chapman, I did not do any thing about
getting up the meeting we talked of - for the room that after my return for
2 or more weeks there were two meetings every night - now summer
is going to stand the State & Phillips will lecture before our Bazaar